

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 22-~~24~~ without prejudice, amend claims 1-4, 6-11, and 13-21, and add Claims 25-39 as follows:

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1 1. (amended) A method in a portable computer having a display screen for  
2 [increasing] supporting increased portable computer compactness, said  
3 method comprising the steps of:

4 displaying data within said display screen; [and]  
5 partitioning said display screen into a touch-sensitive input area  
6 and a display area[, wherein data input at said touch-sensitive input area may  
7 be simultaneously displayed in said display area, in response to a particular  
8 user input];

9 detecting if a user's hands are positioned at said touch-sensitive  
10 input area; and

11 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive pad at said touch-  
12 sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to detecting a  
13 user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein] such that a  
14 user may utilize said touch-sensitive pad to enter data [that may] to be  
15 [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 2. (amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

2 detecting if said user's hands are no longer positioned at said  
3 touch-sensitive input area; and

4 concealing said touch-sensitive pad from view, in response to  
5 detecting [if] that said user's hands are no longer positioned at said touch-  
6 sensitive input area.

1 3. (amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of graphically  
2 displaying a touch-sensitive pad [at said touch-sensitive input area within  
3 said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands positioned at  
4 said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that may be  
5 simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises the step of:

6 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-  
7 sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to detecting a  
8 user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein] such that a  
9 user may utilize said touch-sensitive keyboard to enter data [that may] to be  
10 [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 4. (amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the step of graphically  
2 displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard [at said touch-sensitive input area  
3 within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands positioned  
4 at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that may be  
5 simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises the step of:

6 graphically displaying a transparent touch-sensitive keyboard at  
7 said touch-sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to  
8 detecting a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein]  
9 such that a user may utilize said transparent touch-sensitive keyboard to  
10 enter data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 5. (unchanged) The method of claim 4 further comprising the step of  
2 displaying data in said display area within said display screen, in response to  
3 user data entry at said transparent touch-sensitive keyboard.

1 6. (amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the step of graphically  
2 displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard [at said touch-sensitive input area  
3 within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands positioned  
4 at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that may be  
5 simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises the step of:  
6 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive ergonomic keyboard at  
7 said touch-sensitive input area within said display screen, in response to  
8 detecting a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein]  
9 such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive ergonomic keyboard to enter  
data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 7. (amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising the steps of:  
2 analyzing physical characteristics associated with said user  
3 while said user is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing said touch-  
4 sensitive keyboard; and  
5 in response to analyzing said physical characteristics,  
6 configuring a sensitivity level for said touch-sensitive keyboard [such that the  
7 sensitivity of said touch-sensitive keyboard may be raised or lowered]  
8 according to said physical characteristics [associated with said user].

1 8. (amended) A portable data processing system [in a portable computer  
2 having a display screen for increasing portable computer compactness, said  
3 system] comprising:

4 a display screen and means for displaying data within said  
5 display screen; [and]

6 means for partitioning said display screen into a touch-sensitive  
7 input area and a display area[, wherein data input at said touch-sensitive  
8 input area may be simultaneously displayed in said display area, in response  
9 to a particular user input];

10 means for detecting if a user's hands are positioned at said  
11 touch-sensitive input area; and

12 means for graphically displaying a touch-sensitive pad at said  
13 touch-sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to  
14 [detecting] detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive  
15 area, [wherein] such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive pad to enter  
16 data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

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1 9. (amended) The system of claim 8 further comprising:

2 means for detecting if said user's hands are no longer positioned  
3 at said touch-sensitive input area; and

4 means for concealing said touch-sensitive pad from view, in  
5 response to detecting [if] that said user's hands are no longer positioned at  
6 said touch-sensitive input area.

1 10. (amended) The system of claim 9 wherein said means for graphically  
2 displaying a touch-sensitive pad [at said touch-sensitive input area within  
3 said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands positioned at  
4 said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that may be  
5 simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises:

6 means for graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at  
7 said touch-sensitive input area within said display screen, in response to  
8 [detecting] detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive  
9 area, [wherein] such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive keyboard to  
10 enter data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 11. (amended) The system of claim 10 wherein said means for graphically  
2 displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-sensitive input area  
3 [within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands  
4 positioned at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that  
5 may be simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises:

6 means for graphically displaying a transparent touch-sensitive  
7 keyboard at said touch-sensitive input area within said display screen, in  
8 response to [detecting] detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-  
9 sensitive area, [wherein] such that a user may utilize said transparent touch-  
10 sensitive keyboard to enter data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed  
11 in said display area.

1 12. (unchanged) The system of claim 11 further comprising means for  
2 displaying data in said display area within said display screen, in response to  
3 user data entry at said transparent touch-sensitive keyboard.

1 13. (amended) The system of claim [11] 12 wherein said means for  
2 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard [at said touch-sensitive  
3 input area within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands  
4 positioned at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that  
5 may be simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprises:

6 means for graphically displaying a touch-sensitive ergonomic  
7 keyboard at said touch-sensitive input area [within said display screen], in  
8 response to [detecting] detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-  
9 sensitive area, [wherein] such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive  
10 ergonomic keyboard to enter data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed  
11 in said display area.

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1 14. (amended) The system of claim [12] 13 further comprising:

2 means for analyzing physical characteristics associated with  
3 said user while said user is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing  
4 said touch-sensitive keyboard; and

5 means for configuring a sensitivity level for said touch-sensitive  
6 keyboard [such that the sensitivity of said touch-sensitive keyboard may be  
7 raised or lowered] according to said physical characteristics [associated with  
8 said user], in response to analyzing said physical characteristics.

1 15. (amended) A program product [residing in computer memory in a  
2 portable computer having a display screen for increasing] that supports  
3 increased portable computer compactness, said program product comprising:

4 data display instructions [means residing in a computer memory]  
5 for displaying data within [said] a display screen of a portable computer;  
6 [and]

7 partition instructions [means residing in a computer memory] for  
8 partitioning said display screen into a touch-sensitive input area and a display  
9 area[, wherein data input at said touch-sensitive input area may be  
10 simultaneously displayed in said display area, in response to a particular user  
11 input];

12 detection instructions [means residing in a computer memory]  
13 for detecting if a user's hands are positioned at said touch-sensitive input  
14 area; [and]

15 pad display instructions [means residing in a computer memory]  
16 for graphically displaying a touch-sensitive pad at said touch-sensitive input  
17 area within said display screen, in response to [detecting] detection of a  
18 user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein] such that a  
19 user may utilize said touch-sensitive pad to enter data [that may] to be  
20 [simultaneously] displayed in said display area; and

21 a computer usable medium encoding said data display  
22 instructions, said partition instructions, said detection instructions, and said  
23 pad display instructions.

1 16. (amended) The program product of claim 15 [14 further comprising],  
2 wherein said computer usable medium further encodes:

3 instruction means [residing in a computer memory] for detecting  
4 if said user's hands are no longer positioned at said touch-sensitive input  
5 area; and

6 instruction means [residing in a computer memory] for  
7 concealing said touch-sensitive pad from view, in response to detecting [if]  
8 that said user's hands are no longer positioned at said touch-sensitive input  
9 area.

1 17. (amended) The program product of claim [15] 16 wherein said pad  
2 display instructions [means residing in a computer memory for graphically  
3 displaying a touch-sensitive pad at said touch-sensitive input area within said  
4 display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands positioned at said  
5 touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that may be  
6 simultaneously displayed in said display area, further] comprise[s]:

7 keyboard display instruction [means residing in a computer  
8 memory] for graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-  
9 sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to [detecting]  
10 detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein]  
11 such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive keyboard to enter data [that  
12 may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.



1 18. (amended) The program product of claim [16] 17 wherein said  
2 keyboard display instructions [means residing in a computer memory for  
3 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-sensitive input  
4 area within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands  
5 positioned at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that  
6 may be simultaneously displayed in said display area, further comprises:

7 instruction means residing in a computer memory for]  
8 graphically display[ing] a transparent touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-  
9 sensitive input area within said display screen, in response to [detecting]  
10 detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein]  
11 such that a user may utilize said transparent touch-sensitive keyboard to  
12 enter data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 19. (amended) The program product of claim 18 [17 further comprising  
2 instruction means residing in a computer memory for] wherein said data  
3 display means displays[ing] data in said display area within said display  
4 screen, in response to user data entry at said transparent touch-sensitive  
5 keyboard.

1 20. (amended) The program product of claim [18] 19 wherein said  
2 keyboard display instructions [means residing in a computer memory for  
3 graphically displaying a touch-sensitive keyboard at said touch-sensitive input  
4 area within said display screen, in response to detecting a user's hands  
5 positioned at said touch-sensitive area, wherein a user may enter data that  
6 may be simultaneously displayed in said display area, further comprises:  
7 instruction means residing in a computer memory for]  
8 graphically display[ing] a touch-sensitive ergonomic keyboard at said touch-  
9 sensitive input area [within said display screen], in response to [detecting]  
10 detection of a user's hands positioned at said touch-sensitive area, [wherein]  
11 such that a user may utilize said touch-sensitive ergonomic keyboard to enter  
12 data [that may] to be [simultaneously] displayed in said display area.

1 21. (amended) The program product of claim 20 [19 further comprising],  
2 wherein said computer usable medium further encodes:

3 analyzing instructions [means residing in a computer memory]  
4 for analyzing physical characteristics associated with said user while said  
5 user is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing said touch-sensitive  
6 keyboard; and

7 means for configuring a sensitivity level for said touch-sensitive  
8 keyboard [such that the sensitivity of said touch-sensitive keyboard may be  
9 raised or lowered] according to said physical characteristics [associated with  
10 said user], in response to analyzing said physical characteristics.

1 22. (canceled)

1 23. (canceled)

1 24. (canceled)

1 25. (newly entered) A method of presenting a virtual keypad in an  
2 electronic system, said electronic system having a display screen, said  
3 method comprising:

4 determining that a user is touching one or more portions of said  
5 display screen; and

6 in response to said determining step, displaying said virtual  
keypad on said display screen proximal said one or more portions.

1 26. (newly entered) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

2 detecting that said user is no longer touching said display  
3 screen; and

4 in response to said detection, concealing said virtual keypad  
5 from view.

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1 27. (newly entered) The method of claim 26, wherein the step of displaying  
2 said virtual keypad comprises displaying a transparent, touch-sensitive  
3 keyboard proximal said one or more portions.

1 28. (newly entered) The method of claim 27, further comprising:

2 receiving input data from said transparent, touch-sensitive  
3 keyboard; and

4 in response to said reception, displaying said input data in first  
5 and second display areas of said display screen, wherein said transparent,  
6 touch-sensitive keyboard overlays at least a portion of said first display area  
7 and does not overlay said second display area.

1 29. (newly entered) The method of claim 28, further comprising:  
2 analyzing characteristics of user input obtained while said user  
3 is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing said touch-sensitive  
4 keyboard; and  
5 configuring a sensitivity level for said touch-sensitive keyboard,  
6 in response to said analyzing step.

1 30. (newly entered) An electronic system comprising:  
2 a display screen;  
3 sensing means for determining that a user is touching one or  
4 more portions of said display screen; and  
5 output means for displaying a virtual keypad on said display  
screen proximal said one or more portions, responsive to said sensing means.

1 31. (newly entered) The system of claim 30, further comprising:  
2 means for detecting that said user is no longer touching said  
3 display screen; and  
4 means for concealing said virtual keypad from view, in response  
5 to said detection.

1 32. (newly entered) The system of claim 31, wherein said output means  
2 comprises means for displaying a transparent, touch-sensitive keyboard  
3 proximal said one or more portions.

1 33. (newly entered) The system of claim 32, further comprising:  
2 input means for receiving input data from said transparent,  
3 touch-sensitive keyboard; and  
4 means, responsive to said input means, for displaying said input  
5 data in first and second display areas of said display screen, wherein said  
6 transparent, touch-sensitive keyboard overlays at least a portion of said first  
7 display area and does not overlay said second display area.

1 34. (newly entered) The system of claim 33, further comprising:  
2 analysis means for analyzing characteristics of user input  
3 obtained while said user is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing  
4 said touch-sensitive keyboard; and  
5 configuration means for configuring a sensitivity level for said  
6 touch-sensitive keyboard, in response analysis of said characteristics.

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1 35. (newly entered) A program product that provides a virtual keyboard for  
2 an electronic system that has a display screen, said program product  
3 comprising:  
4 sensing instructions for determining that a user is touching one  
5 or more portions of said display screen;  
6 display instructions for displaying a virtual keypad on said  
7 display screen proximal said one or more portions, in response to said  
8 determination; and  
9 a computer usable medium encoding said sensing means and  
said display means.

1 36. (newly entered) The program product of claim 35, wherein:  
2 said sensing instructions comprise program code for detecting  
3 that said user is no longer touching said display screen; and  
4 said display instructions comprise program code for concealing  
5 said virtual keypad from view, in response to said detection.

1 37. (newly entered) The program product of claim 36, wherein said display  
2 instructions comprise program code for displaying a transparent, touch-  
3 sensitive keyboard proximal said one or more portions.

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1 38. (newly entered) The program product of claim 36, wherein said  
2 computer usable medium further encodes:  
3 input instructions for receiving input data from said transparent,  
4 touch-sensitive keyboard; and  
5 output instructions, responsive to receipt of said input data, for  
6 displaying said input data in first and second display areas of said display  
7 screen, wherein said transparent, touch-sensitive keyboard overlays at least  
8 a portion of said first display area and does not overlay said second display  
9 area.

1 39. (newly entered) The program product of claim 38, wherein said  
2 computer usable medium further encodes:  
3 analysis instructions for analyzing characteristics of input data  
4 obtained while said user is entering a particular sequence of data utilizing  
5 said touch-sensitive keyboard; and  
6 configuration instructions for configuring a sensitivity level for  
7 said touch-sensitive keyboard, in response to analysis of said characteristics.